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17 May 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Update Briefing Regarding Terrorism for
Robin Cleveland and Peter Sullivan, Senate Select
Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) Staff

1. On 17 May 1984 Robin Cleveland and Peter Sullivan, SSCI staff, were briefed by [] Chief, Counter-
terrorism Group, International Activities Division/
Directorate of Operations (IAD/DDO); []
[] IAD/DDO.

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2. Robin Cleveland started out the briefing by asking for our definition of "terrorism?" The following statements were quoted from a Directorate of Intelligence (DDI) publication dated 10 May 1984 (GI TR 84-010):

a. Terrorism is premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine state agents.

b. International terrorism is terrorism involving citizens or territory of more than one country.

[] said that terrorism must convey terror, afflict the innocent. Mr. Sullivan asked if the mining of the harbors could be classified as an act of terrorism? [] answered yes, perhaps, if a friendly ally ship had been damaged by the mining.

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3. Ms. Cleveland asked about the threat assessment process. How do you determine what is real? [] stated that it was a Community problem--not just the Agency. He said that the Agency has a more "laid-back attitude." He stated that assessments are a subjective judgment, we rely on the analysts, and the DDO and the DDI haven't missed many incidents. You depend on the history of an incident to determine how real the threat may be.

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5. The briefing ended with Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Cleveland discussing State's point of view regarding this issue. Ms. Cleveland requested two DDI publications. This information was passed to [redacted] for her action.

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House Liaison
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